

SURVEY OF CLINICAL PEDIATRICS—Second Edition. Lawrence B. Slobody, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, New York Medical College, The Blakiston Division, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York, 1955. 502 pages, \$9.50.

The title of the book describes it. It is a survey of Clinical Pediatrics. This is a good survey. Knowledge and facts concerning growth, development and the pathological conditions seen in children are presented in outline form with brevity of words, but each sentence is full of knowledge and known facts. Each subject is captioned in large bold type. The numerous tables stand out sharply in the text. Each condition described outlines the essential features of the disease or pathological condition, the germane laboratory procedures are listed and essential treatment described, with dosage and procedures listed in detail. At the end of each chapter there is a list of "review questions" which challenges the reader as to his grasp of the chapter. The index covers 51 pages. There are three pages of suggested collateral and reference reading. The preface states, "The survey is not intended to replace the excellent text books now available. It is designed to help the student and practitioner focus on the highlights and relationships of pediatrics." The reviewer feels this has been done. Some information is so new that even the Salk Vaccine is mentioned. The book could even serve the well established pediatrician as a quick and easy review of conditions and diseases affecting the growing child.

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CIBA COLLECTION OF MEDICAL ILLUSTRATIONS—Volume 2—Reproductive System. Prepared by Frank H. Netter, M.D., and Edited by Ernst Oppenheimer, M.D. Commissioned and published by CIBA Pharmaceutical Products, Inc., Summit, New Jersey, 1954. 286 pages, \$13.00.

In his foreword to this atlas, John Rock aptly describes it as an exceedingly compact and inclusive postgraduate course in both male and female reproductive anatomy, physiology and pathology. To those familiar with the first volume of Ciba Medical Illustrations (on the nervous system), suffice it to say that the second is a similar but more pretentious effort, comprising 233 plates with accompanying descriptive text printed in very small type. Many of Frank Netter's illustrations will be familiar to physicians who have had time to look at the various issues of "Ciba Clinical Symposia," as well as special folders and brochures distributed by this pharmaceutical concern over the last dozen years, because 144 of the plates were published previously in these media. In addition to a preface describing briefly some of the problems of putting such an atlas together, Ernst Oppenheimer has provided an impressive sketch which tells something of the enormous amount of study Doctor Netter devotes to the subject depicted in each of his paintings. Finally, the artist himself has provided a short historical resumé of the work of artist-illustrators in medicine, as well as interesting comments about his collaborators who provided the textual material.

The volume is divided conveniently into fourteen sections, the first five of which deal with normal anatomy and diseases of the male genital tract. Similar coverage for the female organs is provided in the next six sections, and the remaining three portions are devoted respectively to pregnancy and its disorders, the mammary gland, and intersexes. Netter's paintings of gross anatomical and pathological material are superb, but many of the reproductions of photomicrographs seem oversimplified and perhaps in many instances the actual photographs might have served better.

The book is recommended to those who need a fairly rapid and pleasantly colorful review of disorders of the reproductive systems. Teachers will find that many of the plates, or portions of them, can be reproduced nicely on color film and used as transparencies for lantern slides, a practice which one presumes to be in keeping with the avowed purpose of the authors.

PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGIC MEDICINE. Eugene Ziskind, M.D., Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, University of Southern California School of Medicine. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1954. 370 pages, \$7.00.

In recent years there have been many volumes popularizing the field of psychosomatic medicine. This one, by a practicing psychiatrist who has been working for many years as a psychiatrist in a general hospital and clinic, may prove to be a real help to physicians interested in the psychological aspects of medicine. The author divides his presentations into three sections—the first concerned with a generally comprehensive description of the problems of psychophysiologic medicine and related psychopathological aspects of such problems; the second with techniques and methodology, including diagnosis and psychotherapy; and the third, entitled "Toward Broader Visions," describes child-parent relationships, the social factors of psychopathology, psychiatric emergencies in medical practice, and a description of the various schools of psychiatric thought, including those of Freud, Adler, Jung, Rank, the cultural psychoanalysts, and Meyer, the psychobiologist. The presentation is simple and lucid. Clinical examples are sprinkled throughout the text in order to emphasize specific points and are quite appropriately chosen, and no attempt is made to minimize the difficulties in inherent psychotherapeutic procedures. The author's basic philosophy is stated as follows: "I stress what is common to most psychiatric thinking, namely, that the needs of human beings, when frustrated, result in personality conflicts; that the process of social adaptation is universal, but often unsuccessful; that early life conflicts endure; that persistent conflicts may crystallize into character patterns; that unresolved conflicts may be transmitted into symptoms of organic illness through the autonomic nervous system. These do not explain all psychopathology yet they suffice as a set of working premises."

All in all, this book may be highly recommended to practicing physicians and students.

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SYNOPSIS OF MEDICINE—Tenth Edition. Sir Henry Letherby Tidy, K.B.E., M.A., M.D., B.Ch.(Oxon), F.R.C.P. (Lond.), Extra Physician to Her Majesty the Queen. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1954. 1253 pages, \$7.50.

It is obvious that this short synopsis of medicine has filled a need because of its many editions since 1920, of which the present one is the tenth. The material in general is well organized and easily available by an excellent index. The basic principles are clearly stated but the discussion is, to the reviewer's mind, wholly inadequate. This may, of course, be the result of the limited space available because of the nature of the book. Nevertheless, one often finds inadequate discussions, as for example, the fact that Coronary Heart Disease is covered in five and one-half short pages and Essential Hypertension in two pages. Treatment is particularly inadequately covered. Newer methods of study have been incorporated in the new edition, although one still finds discussions, as in the section on Coronary Heart Disease mentioned above, with respect to Lead IV rather than discussing the precordial leads.

The section on Infectious Diseases is among the best although again treatment is given inadequate attention. The space devoted to Infectious Diseases is much more adequate than for other aspects of medicine, which may account for the excellence of this particular section. For example, the discussion on Lobar Pneumonia covers thirteen pages.

For those who like their medicine in capsule form and who are able to gain what they want from terse statements, this book will be useful.